

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

1. Japanese Patent No. 4-216823 designated as a X reference in the International Search Report filed July 14, 2006 according to the Derwent abstract discloses reacting a monoepoxide with a first initiator containing at least one OH group in the presence of a double metal cyanide complex to form an intermediate polyether, then adding a second initiator. The claimed first and second initiators having different active hydrogen group contents are not recited, nor is there any indication that the claimed blend of polyoxyalkylene with at least two active hydrogen groups and a polyoxyalkylene with one active hydrogen group is produced.
2. Watabe et al. Patent No. 4,987,271 (col. 5, lines 64-67 and col. 6, lines 28-30) and Funaki et al. Patent No. 6,153,794 (cols. 22-24, Examples 3 and 7) set forth the separate preparations of a polyoxyalkylene polyol from a monoepoxide with a polyol initiator, and a polyoxyalkylene monool from a monoepoxide with a monovalent initiator. The claimed process of reacting an alkylene oxide with both an active hydrogen groups-containing initiator and a one active hydrogen group-containing initiator is not recited, nor is there any motivation to utilize the two different catalysts together.
3. The following references have the same assignee as that of the instant application of the Kaneko Corporation and show polypropylene oxides obtained by the reaction of propylene oxide with dipropylene glycol in the presence of a zinc hexanocobaltate catalyst without the claimed second one active hydrogen-containing initiator:

Ito et al. Patent No. 6,248,915

Odaka et al. Patent No. 6,437,071

Ueda et al. Patent No. 7,144,953

Fujimoto et al. Patent No. 7,151,128

Ando et al. Patent No. 7,182,833.

4. Japanese Patent No. 10-36500 espouses the polymerization of a monoepoxide with a polyhydroxy compound in the presence of a metal cyanide complex catalyst without the claimed second one active hydrogen-containing initiator.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert Sellers whose telephone number is (571) 272-1093. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 9:30 to 6:00. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217-9197 (toll-free).

/Robert Sellers/
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